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STATE BOARD OF HEALTH.

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STATE HYGIENIC LABORATORY.

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The Monthly Bulletin will present in each number a synopsis of the important results developed by tabulating the statistics of births, marriages, and deaths, especially the latter. The Bulletin is the official means of communication between the Secretary of the State Board of Health and County and City Health Officers, as well as between the State Registrar and Local Registrars and Subregistrars, and will present from time to time matter of interest to these officials. For the benefit of the general public, reports will also be given of food analyses made in the State Hygienic Laboratory at Berkeley.

VITAL STATISTICS FOR JUNE.

It was hardly expected that the registration of vital statistics under the new law would be begun generally before July 1, but returns of varying completeness were received from some counties even for June. The data on the certificates have been tabulated and the main results are now presented without special comment, as the numbers are too small for positive conclusions to be drawn.

Births.—Returns from eight counties, three fifths being from two counties, show a total of 91 living births registered in June, of which 46 were male and 45 female. All except a Chinese girl and a Japanese boy belonged to the white or Caucasian race. The parent nativity of the 89 white children was as follows: both parents born in California or one born here and the other elsewhere in the United States, 41; other native or unknown, 23; one born in California and the other in a foreign country, 5; and other mixed or foreign, 20. Stated proportionally, 461 of each 1,000 were of pure California or mixed California and native parentage, 258 of other native parentage, 56 of mixed California and foreign parentage, and 225 of other foreign parentage. Altogether 51.7 per cent, or over one half, of the white children had one or both parents born in the Golden State.

Marriages.—A total of 267 marriages were registered in June in fourteen counties, three fourths being in four counties. In 199 cases, or 74.6 per cent of all, the marriage performed was the first for each party to it, both groom and bride being single. In 24 instances the groom was single but not the bride, in 22 the bride was single but not the groom, and in 22 it was the second or third marriage of both parties. Only one remarriage was reported. Of the grooms, 223 or 83.5 per cent were single, 25 or 9.4 per cent were widowed, and 19 or 7.1 per cent were divorced, while of the brides the single were 221 or 82.8 per cent of all, the widowed 32 or 12.0 per cent, and the divorced 14 or 5.2 per cent. More brides than grooms reported themselves as widowed, and on the other hand more grooms than brides stated that they were divorced.

Two marriages of negroes were registered. Of the 265 marriages of whites, 144 or 54.3 per cent were unions between Californians or between Californians and other natives, 54 or 20.4 per cent between other natives of the United States, 23 or 8.7 per cent between Californians and foreigners, and 44 or 16.6 per cent between other natives and foreign-born whites. In altogether 167 cases, or five eighths (63.0 per cent) of all marriages of whites, one or both parties were native Californians.

Deaths.—The tabulation of mortality statistics by the system to be used henceforth is omitted for June because the great bulk of the returns of deaths were on old forms not giving the necessary data.

Twenty-one reports, representing a population of 911,300, show a mortality of 1,060, and a death-rate for the month of 1.16 per thousand, or an annual rate of 13.96 per thousand. In the public institutions, with a population of 9,231, there were 48 deaths—a monthly death-rate of 5.20 per thousand, or an annual rate of 62.40 per thousand.

The causes of deaths were as follows: Tuberculosis, 170; Heart Disease, 151; Cancer, 67; Pneumonia, 64; Stomach Diseases, 61; Diarrhoea and Dysentery, 24; Typhoid Fever, 17; Diphtheria, 10; Whooping-cough, 10; Cerebro-spinal Fever, 10; Alcoholism, 8; Bronchitis, 8; Influenza, 4; Cholera Infantum, 4; Measles, 2; Congestion of the Lungs, 2; Erysipelas, 2; Scarlatina, 1; other causes, 445.

Distributed proportionally, the deaths from each cause reported per 10,000 from all causes were as follows: Tuberculosis, 1,604; Heart Disease, 1,424; Cancer, 632; Pneumonia, 604; Stomach Diseases, 576; Diarrhoea and Dysentery, 226; Typhoid Fever, 160; Diphtheria, 94; Whooping-cough, 94; Cerebro-spinal Fever, 94; Alcoholism, 76; Bronchitis, 76; Influenza, 38; Cholera Infantum, 38; Measles, 19; Congestion of the Lungs, 19; Erysipelas, 19; Scarlatina, 9; other causes, 4,198.

HEALTH SUGGESTIONS.

The attention of the Health Officers of the State is called to the danger of disease being spread by means of water. It is the recognized source of dissemination the world over for certain diseases, notably cholera and typhoid fever. There is no case of either of these diseases but what came from a preceding case through the excreta from the human body. The disease germs in this excreta live a certain

length of time in the water, and a person using any in which they exist, for either drinking or washing, is in danger of contracting the disease. That all do not so contract it simply shows the resisting power of their systems. It is in direct violation of the State law to in any way pollute the streams furnishing water for domestic purposes. This applies to towns as well as individuals, and it is your duty to watch the water supply of your jurisdiction and keep it pure. Towns sewerage into such streams or lakes should be at once notified that they must take steps to secure other means of disposing of their sewage. Corrals and closets of ranches should be moved back from the stream a reasonable distance, and campers should be notified that they must not use the stream in which to wash clothing or deposit the refuse and excreta of their camp. All camping should be prohibited on the banks of streams which directly flow into a reservoir supplying water for domestic purposes, or immediately above the intake of a water supply on a stream, as many cases of typhoid fever have been traced to this source. Typhoid fever is an entirely preventable disease and its existence is a crime against the inhabitants of a State, so many of whom die from it each year. As soon as the people learn that the drinking of dilute sewage is the great cause of this disease and insist that those above them keep from polluting the water and in turn exercise the same care themselves, we shall have taken a long step toward stamping it out.

A representative of the State Board has visited many of the cities and towns which are violating the law against polluting the streams, and has shown them the means by which it can be avoided. Several are acting on the suggestions made and there is no doubt but that in the near future a great improvement will be seen. During a recent tour of inspection, a short distance above a city which pumps its water directly from a stream, a man was seen throwing a load of manure into the water. This, irritating and foul as it was, was not as bad as the acts of nearby towns which discharge all their sewage into the same stream. There is not a city or town in the State that is befouling and polluting the streams but what can, with moderate expense, install a system of sewage destruction. In the saving of life and promoting good health this would be a paying investment.

STATE HYGIENIC LABORATORY.

In accordance with an Act of the last Legislature a State Hygienic Laboratory has been established at the University of California at Berkeley, under the control of the State Board of Health. The work of the laboratory is designed to meet the needs of district health officers, who do not have access to municipal laboratories. The limited funds provided will necessarily restrict the work, but it will be possible at present to do routine diagnostic work on such diseases as tuberculosis, diphtheria, anthrax and typhoid fever, together with the examination of water suspected of sewage pollution.

For the present the privileges of the laboratory will be extended to official medical and veterinary health officers. Circulars giving further details of the work that can be done are in preparation. These will be mailed to all such officers known to the State Board of Health.

The State Hygienic Laboratory has fortunately secured the coöperation of the Food Laboratory of the University of California, under the direction of Prof. M. E. Jaffa. Data relating to analyses of food with reference to purity, etc., will be furnished by him from time to time. The first contribution appears elsewhere in this Bulletin.

A. R. WARD,
Director State Hygienic Laboratory.

Analyses of so-called Evaporated Creams.

Lab No.	Brand.	Manufacturer.	Water.	Casein, etc.	Fat.	Lactose.	Mineral Matter.
512	Carnation brand sterilized cream	Pac. Coast Cond. Milk Co.	76.78	6.06	7.50	8.11	1.55
519	California Poppy brand evaporated cream	Cold Brook Creameries	78.90	6.23	5.90	7.80	1.17
520	Isleton evaporated cream	Western Creameries Co.	77.99	5.88	6.90	8.00	1.23
546	Lily cream	Pacific Creamery Co.	78.21	6.12	5.40	8.91	1.36
547	Jersey evaporated sterilized cream	Cond'sed Milk Co. of Cal.	80.22	5.55	4.80	8.18	1.25
548	Highland brand evaporated cream	Helvetia Milk Cond'g Co.	72.48	7.56	7.50	10.86	1.60
549	Yacht brand evaporated cream	Borden Cond. Milk Co.	75.28	7.15	8.10	7.84	1.63

No determinations were made on the above samples for either adulterants or preservatives. The investigation was undertaken with a view of showing the necessity of a food inspection law which would enable consumers to buy food materials honestly labeled.

These tabulated results show that the "evaporated creams" do not approach in fat content that of an average cream, which should contain at least 20 per cent fat. The food value of these products is about double that of ordinary milk, and consequently they should be labeled "condensed milk."

M. E. JAFFA.

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